

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00
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O R 311330Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2123
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST
CINCUSAFE
USINFO WASHDC

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USINFO FOR VOA/PN, PGM/RC, PGM/PPE, EU

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, TU, CY
SUBJ: JUSTICE PARTY CRITICISM OF ECEVIT'S CYPRUS INITIATIVES.

1. OPPOSITION PRESS MAY 30 AND 31 CARRIED STATEMENT BY
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BOARD OF JUSTICE PARTY (JP) STRONGLY
CRITICIZING THE TENDENCY OF PRIMIN ECEVIT'S CYPRUS POLICY.
FOLLOWING MAY 29 BOARD MEETING CHAIRED BY FORMER PRIMIN
DEMIREL, JP VICE PRESIDENT NURI BAYAR READ THE STATEMENT
WHICH CHARGED ECEVIT WITH TRYING TO GET A SETTLEMENT ON
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CYPRUS AT ANY PRICE IN ORDER TO WIN AN EXTERNAL VICTORY
WHICH WOULD DRAW ATTENTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERNAL
POLICY FAILURES.

2. THE STATEMENT ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF MAKING
"IRRESPONSIBLE STATEMENTS AND INITIATIVES" AS A FORM OF
"INTERNALLY-DIRECTED PROPAGANDA", OF "COMING OUT WITH

DANGEROUS CONCESSIONS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO STATE "WE WERE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING", AND OF APPEARING TO FOLLOW A POLICY ON CYPRUS OF "GIVE AND BE SAVED." CALLING THE CYPRUS ISSUE "A NATIONAL CAUSE WHICH SURPASSES GOVERNMENTS AND IS THE PROPERTY OF OUR NATION", THE JP STATEMENT CRITICIZED THE MANNER IN WHICH "WITHOUT THE PUBLIC, THE PARLIAMENT, OR EVEN THE GOVERNMENT BEING INFORMED, MR. DENKTASH WAS MADE TO GIVE STATEMENTS CAUSING ANXIETY TO OUR NATION." AFTER AFFIRMING THAT CONCESSIONS OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THOSE CONTAINED IN DENKTASH'S NEW YORK ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD ONLY HAVE BEEN MADE AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE NATION AND THE PARLIAMENT, THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED WITH "THE BELIEF THAT THESE INITIATIVES ARE OF A NATURE WHICH WILL INCREASE INTERNAL TENSIONS."

3. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN MAY 31 TERCUMAN (CONSERVATIVE, PRO-OPPOSITION), FORMER MINENERGY, JP SENATOR INAN, CHARGED THAT IN DISCUSSING THE WITHDRAWAL OF TURKISH TROOPS DENKTASH HAD GONE BEYOND HS AUTHORITY. HE ALSO CHARGED ECEVIT WITH CONDUCTING A FOREIGN POLICY WHICH WAS FULL OF "ZIGZAGS" AND "CONTRADICTIONS", NOTING THAT ECEVIT IN JULY, JUST BEFORE HANDING OVER POWER TO DEMIREL, HAD CHARGED THE JP-LED COALITION WITH WANTING TO OPEN UP MARAS (VAROSHA) TO GREEK CYPRIOT RESETTLEMENT, BUT NOW ECEVIT HIMSELF WAS PROPOSING IT. INAN ALSO CRITICIZED ECEVIT FOR SAYING THE US BASES COULD BE REOPENED IF THE EMBARGO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS LIFTED, EVEN THOUGH, WITH THE ANNULMENT OF THE 1969 DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA) AND THE SCRAPPING OF THE 1975 DCA THERE IS, ACCORDING TO INAN, NO LEGAL BASIS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE BASES.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ECEVIT IS OPERATING UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE HAS A NATIONAL CONSENSUS BEHIND HIM ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION, THE JP PROBABLY FELT THE NEED TO TARNISH THE "GREAT STATESMAN" IMAGE WHICH ECEVIT IS BUILDING UP WITH HIS FOREIGN TOURS AND HIS FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES. ALTHOUGH ECEVIT'S ASSUMPTION IS STILL PROBABLY VALID, THE OPPOSITION WILL BE INCREASINGLY TEMPTED TO ENGAGE IN SUCH ATTACKS AS INTERNAL PROBLEMS MAKE THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT LOOK INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE AND INCREASINGLY DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN POLICY SUCCESSES FOR ITS SURVIVAL. SPIERS

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